



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

October 19, 2010
Contact: Chris Mackey
Office: (919) 733-5612

**Manufacturer of High Performance Technical Fabrics for Energy Efficient
Composites to Bring 178 Jobs to Mecklenburg County**
State Grant Helps SAERTEX Expand in Huntersville

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue today announced that SAERTEX USA LLC, a manufacturer of technical fabrics for lightweight composite structures for the green energy sector, will expand its current facility in Mecklenburg County. The company plans to create 178 jobs and invest \$6.5 million over the next three years in Huntersville. The project was made possible in part by a \$110,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

“Creating jobs remains my number one priority, especially in fast-growing sectors such as the green economy,” said Gov. Perdue. “High-tech manufacturers continue to be attracted to North Carolina by our skilled workforce and top-ranked business climate. Today’s announcement, and others like it, confirm the top national economic rankings that keep rolling in for North Carolina.”

SAERTEX works primarily in the wind energy, aerospace, civil engineering, auto and shipbuilding industries by producing the reinforcing technical fabrics to create composites that are competitive with established materials such as steel and aluminum. This expansion is a result of growing demand for lighter components that save energy. Founded in 1982, SAERTEX is headquartered in Saerbeck, Germany and has locations in France, Germany, Portugal, South Africa, India, China and the U.S. The company opened its first North Carolina facility in 2000 and currently employs 126 workers in Huntersville.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average annual wage for the new jobs will be \$41,506 not including benefits. The Mecklenburg County average annual wage is \$48,776.

“SAERTEX USA appreciates the support of Gov. Perdue and the State of North Carolina in helping increase our footprint in North Carolina, while supporting wind and other green industries in the United States,” said Dr. Christian Kissinger, General Manager of SAERTEX USA. “We are encouraged by the